

REMARKS

The Applicant has reviewed the Office Action dated May 4, 2005. The Applicant is providing a terminal disclaimer in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321 to overcome the Examiner's rejection of the claims under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

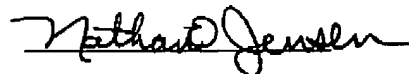
The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 21, 8 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 8, 16 of Patent (US 6,782,392 B1). The Examiner asserts that although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because both computer systems comprise substantially the same elements. According to the Examiner both the application and the patent teach a message processor, virtual line replacement units, network addressable units transaction dispatcher.

The Applicant is submitting a terminal disclaimer in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321 to overcome the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 8, and 21 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant is submitting a terminal disclaimer to overcome the Examiner's rejection. The application is now believed to be in a condition for allowance. In light of the foregoing a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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